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STAT

Planned domestic network

Charge CIA aided Red Squad

By Elizabeth Brenner

A CIVIL RIGHTS GROUP has charged that newly released Central Intelligence Agency memos reveal the CIA worked with the Chicago Police Department's Red Squad as part of a campaign to influence police spying nationwide.

Although forbidden to engage in domestic spying, the CIA made specific recommendations to the Red Squad after a 1967 survey on how the unit could streamline its operations, a spokesman for the Alliance to End Repression said.

Existence of the memos was announced Sunday by Richard Gutman, an attorney for the Alliance to End Repression.

The alliance obtained the memos as a result of its federal class-action suit against the Chicago Police

Department for alleged spying on lawful political activity.

GUTMAN SAID HE BELIEVES the CIA conducted the study in an attempt to develop an intelligence network in Chicago to spy on political activities.

"The CIA wanted to develop the Red Squad as a potential source of information on local antiwar and civil rights activity," Gutman said. "That conclusion is based on other documents we've obtained and will be releasing soon."

He added that because the CIA "helped streamline the Chicago Red Squad, it is partially responsible for the Red Squad abuses since 1967."

The CIA survey followed an August, 1967 national seminar for police chiefs held at the CIA's Langley, Va. headquarters, where then-director Richard Helms volunteered his agency's assistance in upgrading local police intelligence departments.

JAMES CONLISK, WHO WAS police superintendent, attended the seminar. Gutman said the memos indicate Conlisk requested CIA assistance because he thought the 1968 National Democratic Convention to be held in Chicago was likely to increase subversive political activity in the city.

Gutman said the memos also reveal:

- Two CIA agents visited the Red Squad December 11-13, 1967. After conducting a survey, they recommended the unit computerize sensitive information on subversive groups, instead of including it in the police department's General Name Index.

- Police Intelligence Division Director William J. Duffy preferred directing Red Squad activities against organized crime instead of against subversive groups.

Gutman said shortly after the CIA survey was submitted to the police department administration, Duffy was replaced.